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## II. PHILANTHROPY, CHARITIES AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

**The May Number of the "Annals"** will be a special philanthropy volume. The members of the Academy and readers of *THE ANNALS* are invited to send notes to this department. It is hoped to make the Philanthropy Number a conference by correspondence as it were; the more who contribute the greater will be the profit.

**The Fee System in Georgia** is as objectionable as in New Jersey and wherever officers of criminal courts are paid in proportion to the number of offenders arrested, tried and boarded. The governor of Georgia in his annual message, 1902, advocated the abolishment of all fees for county judges and solicitors: "Thus the temptation to institute frivolous prosecutions and to impose heavy fines and exact exorbitant costs in trivial cases would be removed, and there would be no ground to charge that any county court is run in the interest of proprietors of private chain-gangs." Fulton County, of which Atlanta is the seat, has abolished all fees for court officers except the sheriff, who still makes a huge profit from boarding prisoners and witnesses at twenty-seven cents per day. The county solicitor's salary is now \$6,000; under the fee system such as now prevails elsewhere, the Fulton solicitors had annual incomes of \$20,000-\$30,000.

The annual message of Governor Murphy, of New Jersey, also recommended the abolishment of all county fees, particularly those of the sheriff. "The laborer is worthy of his hire, but one laborer is not worthy the hire of two or three." The State Charities Aid Association has for years pointed out that the sheriff's profits from boarding prisoners are a stumbling block to penal reform. The significant fruit of this educational work is the fact that the proposition for which the governor urged economic reasons has been made a moral issue. The bill, which has passed the Senate, gives salaries in the largest counties of about one-third of the present net income, in the small counties approximating one-half the present net income. Should it pass the lower house the estimated saving to the state would be from \$40,000 to \$140,000 per year.

**Can Colored Convicts be Employed Indoors?**—Most Southern states reply in the negative. The prison commission of Georgia in its report for 1902 declares that the low death rate of the Georgia penitentiary is due to open-air employment. Some state officials declare that as many as 20 to 30 per cent would die if employed indoors. This opinion seems to prevail among prison officials in the South, notwithstanding the successful experiments in many points with colored non-convict factory labor. The experience of the federal prison, Atlanta, will be valuable because many of its convicts are colored and are worked side by side with whites. Perhaps the best rebuttal of the argument that Southern colored convicts cannot be given industrial training within walls is found in the Virginia state penitentiary, where from eight hundred to nine hundred colored convicts, male and female, are employed in the shoe factory, which has been running over seventeen years. This

factory returns an average income to the state of about fifty thousand dollars per year; in addition the prisoners earn from eighteen hundred to two thousand dollars per month for over-time. Although the building is of obsolete type and sanitary conditions very unfavorable, because of large cells for twenty or even thirty men, with petroleum for light and heat, there were last year only seven deaths among the 1,373 colored men and women at the penitentiary, a lower rate than obtains among the total colored population above five years of age in any of the Southern states. The death rate in the city of Richmond, where the penitentiary is located for colored was, in 1900: males, 35 5-10 per thousand, for colored females 32 2-10 per thousand, while in the city of Atlanta the death rate for colored was: males, 39 5-10, and for females, 36 3-10 per thousand.

**How State Prisoners Should Be Employed** is a problem of great moment both North and South. The governor of Illinois in his annual message opposed productive prison labor on the ground of its alleged injury to free labor. An Illinois daily paper declares that it is the manufacturer, rather than the laborer, who has demanded this opposition. "The tax-paying part of the community have a right to require that this labor shall be sufficiently remunerative to maintain the prisoners themselves. This is the only class of public institution that ever does or ever can contribute to its own support." In general it may be said that the editorial is sounder economically and sociologically than the governor's cry against productive prison labor. Even in New York students are beginning to realize that the attempt to confine industry within prisons to production for state consumption results in placing a needless burden upon the taxpayers.

The general systems of convict labor may be classified as follows: Production on state account for state consumption (New York); production on state account for universal consumption (Minnesota); contract labor, indoors (New Jersey); contract labor, out of doors (Georgia); lessee system, out of doors (Alabama).

Georgia has for three years sold the labor of its convicts (2038 out of 2315 last October) to private manufacturers and mine operators, the state reserving the responsibility for discipline, medical and clerical attendance, etc., and the private contractors furnishing house and provisions. This system nets the state an average of \$82,000 a year, and it is maintained that the next contract will net at least \$200,000 a year. As one-half of this sum goes to the schools of the state, it is expected that the legislature, which convenes in June, 1903, will authorize the present commission to make new contracts. What is virtually a lessee system is in vogue in thirty-two counties, with an aggregate of 965 convicts. According to the last report of the prison commission and the message of Governor Terrill to the legislature in 1902, these counties are evading, even violating existing law. Production on public account for public consumption may be examined at Atlanta, there being county chain gangs constantly at work upon the roads in various parts of Fulton County. The last report of the prison commission contains an able argument on out-of-door contract labor, and defends the Georgia system on these grounds: (1) It is humane and in keeping with the best modern prison systems. (2)

It is better adapted to the present population (colored) of the state than any other. (3) It competes less with other industries and with other labor than any other. (4) It is self-sustaining and nets the state large sums of money annually.

The same report contains a severe arraignment of the lessee system which is in vogue in thirty-two counties, and also in other Southern states such as Mississippi. Of this system, which employs nearly 1,000 misdemeanor convicts, the governor's message, 1902, said: "By unwarranted stretch of the law other chain-gangs authorized by county authorities, and nominally under their control, but worked, not by the county, nor for the benefit of the county, but by private individuals or companies for personal gain, have been established in quite a number of counties, sometimes two or three in the same county."

**The Atlanta Charitable Association** was organized several years ago by the best citizens of our city, each member agreeing to pay \$6 per year. An ordinance was passed ordering that all relief given by the city should be dispensed through this association. Each individual applying for relief was to be visited by the superintendent and, when found worthy, his necessities were to be relieved by giving him an order on the nearest grocer or wood dealer.

The expense of running the association was about \$1,350 per year. In the year 1899 the city's appropriation to this association was \$3,500 and the amount raised by citizens was \$1,962.14. In addition to this the citizens paid the superintendent's salary, office rent, telephone, etc., making a total of \$3,311.36, nearly as much as the city gave. In 1900 the city contributed \$3,500. The association's report says they helped 4,487 persons, giving out in relief \$3,324.82 besides a great deal of second-hand clothing, which was the equivalent of about seventy-five cents in cash to each person.

The finance committee in 1902, of which the writer was chairman, gave \$1,200, on condition that none of this should be spent for salaries. This was refused, and the association closed about April 1, 1902. This action was taken because the association's membership fees had dwindled down to \$500, and the greater part of the city's money was spent not for relief but for salaries. In justice to the president of the association it should be said that he had been unable, during 1900 and 1901, to give to the work of the association the attention which had previously made it an excellent relief agency.

I am convinced that the plan of this association was the proper one for dispensing relief. I think they should have had monthly meetings at least and enthused and interested their members by telling of the great work being done, and not left everything to the superintendent. An organized charity is the proper way to dispense relief. Charity, like everything else, to do the most good, must be systematized. We hope soon to unite all the charities in our city.<sup>1</sup>

**The Home for the Friendless, Atlanta**, was organized in the year 1888. Three or four charitable women, after enlisting the interest of others,

<sup>1</sup>Contributed by T. D. Longino, M. D., Chairman Hospitals and Charities Committee, City Council, Atlanta, Ga.

secured a charter, and in a cottage of six rooms opened a home for homeless women and children. In six months' time the cottage was outgrown. In the meantime the city council having taken note of the devotion and ability of these few women, gave to the home an appropriation of \$50 per month. As the number receiving help grew, the city government increased this appropriation, until now it grants \$250 per month. Within four years our six-room cottage had grown to a large two-story brick building, with not one cent of indebtedness upon it. The work has so grown that in the last year we have added a third story to our building at a cost of \$5,000.

From the outset we have emphasized the placing-out feature of our work. Hundreds of children have been sheltered and many women cared for. About three hundred children have been adopted into good homes and numberless girls saved from ruin. There are now one hundred and twenty-five inmates, fifty-three of whom attend public schools, twenty-one our kindergarten, twenty-two our day school at the home, while thirteen are in our baby nursery. Every boy and girl old enough is taught some industry. For the last year the cost per capita has been \$5.78 per month. The organization has always lived within its means. It is, therefore, free from debt and holds title to unencumbered property valued at \$20,000.<sup>2</sup>

**Reformatory for Boys, Atlanta, Ga.**—Soon after becoming judge of the police court of Atlanta in 1899 I began to notice the number of boys who were brought to trial for various offences, some trivial, others serious. If proved guilty by the evidence, there were but two things to do—fine them or commit them to the city “stockade.” There was no such thing as a reform institution or probation officer in the city, county or state. When the offences were not of a serious nature I dismissed them with a reprimand and a warning, but, unfortunately in most instances, the fact that they had been reprimanded was outweighed by the greater fact that no punishment had followed their arrests, and soon they would be brought back under other and more serious charges. Very few of them were able to pay any fine, and both my heart and mind rebelled at the only alternative of placing them in the stockade to work, eat, sleep, breathe and live in close confinement and contact with degraded and hardened criminals of all degrees and ages, and with all diseases of both mind and body.

This was a state of affairs too horrible to be continued in a Christian community, a community of churches, of charitable societies and of philanthropic men and women. Something must be done! I sent a written appeal to the city council to give me some kind of a reform institution to which youthful criminals could be sent. This body promptly took the matter up, committees were appointed, plans discussed, eloquent speeches made and—nothing done.

Red tape has strangled the effort, as it has so often strangled others. The cause seemed hopeless, when the women of Atlanta came to the rescue, and obtained from the grand jury our county reformatory. It is euphoniously and properly styled “The Industrial Farm,” and is doing a great work, an indispensable work, in the community; but the ever-present “red tape” is in

<sup>2</sup> Contributed by Mrs. A. B. Averille, President.

one respect limiting in a great measure its usefulness. It is a *county* institution, and, under the law, only *county* courts can send juveniles to it. The police court is a *city* court, and although practically all of the youthful criminals of the county are arrested by city policemen and tried in this court, they cannot be directly committed to the institution, but must be committed to jail and kept there until the county courts convene at their regular sessions to try them and pass them on to the school. However, I am glad to be able to state that a bill to change this absurd law is now pending in our state legislature and, I believe, will soon be passed, when the evils mentioned will be remedied.\*

**The Federal Prison Near Atlanta** is in some respects a model institution. Concerning the discipline of the institution and the spirit which pervades the entire staff the warden, S. A. Hawk, formerly of the state penitentiary, West Virginia, speaks as follows:

"The Civil Service Commission have given most valuable service in the examination and certification of applicants for the positions of officers and employees for this institution, who possess a high degree of intelligence and moral excellence, worth and ability, for the performance of their proper duties. It is with some pride and which, I hope, may be pardonable, together with great pleasure that I feel a consciousness that there is not a penal institution on earth which has the material for a better corps of staff and guard officers than is provided for this penitentiary."

There are about five hundred prisoners there at the present time, and work has already been begun upon a large additional wing. Unfortunately the government does not permit prison labor to engage in productive industry, not even in the manufacture of government supplies. Therefore, it is necessary for many of the prisoners to remain idle day in and day out. During the summer months these men will be busied on the new building and in the erection of a large wall which is to surround the eighteen-acre campus, so called. But such was the success of Warden Hawk at Moundsville in stimulating the officers and prisoners that it may be safely prophesied that he will in time not only organize schools and profitable recreation and the intensive cultivation of the farm, but that he will demonstrate to the Department of Justice and to the taxpayers of the United States who influence legislation that the purpose of the federal prison is to regenerate first of all, and that the government should supply facilities for industrial training and productive employment.

**Child Labor in Alabama.**—Mrs. C. P. Orr, representing the Federation of Women's Clubs of Alabama, has brought about an arrangement with the Child Labor and Manufacturing Committee, representing the cotton mill industry of Alabama, which regulates the employment of minors in factories or manufacturing establishments and provides for the punishment of violations of the act.

Section 1 of the act provides that no child under twelve years shall be employed in any manufacturing establishment within the state unless a

\*Contributed by Nash R. Broyles, Esq., City Recorder.

widowed mother or aged or disabled father is dependent on the labor of such child, or in case a child is an orphan and has no other means of support. No child under the age of ten years shall be employed under any circumstances.

Section 2 provides for the filing of an affidavit, signed by the parent or guardian, certifying the age and date of birth of said child, and providing for a fine of not less than \$5, or not more than \$100, or a sentence to a term of hard labor, not exceeding three months, for any person knowingly furnishing a false certificate of the birth of said child.

Section 4 provides that any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$200 for each violation.

The Federation of Women's Clubs of Alabama, acting independently of all organizations—labor and others—has been able to bring about the compromise which seems most satisfactory. The passage of the bill is practically assured.

**Juvenile Crime and the Regulation of Child Labor** are related effectively to the general problem of universal education in Vol. I of the report of the United States Commissioner of Education for 1901. Some of the data which the volume contains is not available in any other publication in the United States. For example, the first chapter on Education in Central Europe has a translation of the complete text of the new law concerning the education of juvenile offenders in Prussia, according to which juvenile delinquents are placed in well-reputed families, where they are kept as apprentices under strict supervision. The expense of such children is defrayed at first by the local government, which may in turn reimburse itself by collecting costs from the families from whom the children are taken, except in cases of poverty. Religious education of children placed out by the state is obligatory. The report refers to the great increase of crime amongst minors as compared with adults, and accounts for it in part by the pressure of present social and economic conditions, a much larger proportion of minors being occupied outside of homes, the influence of which was formerly a protection to them. This law has now been in force a year and a half, and has proved so successful that other states of the empire are beginning to copy it. Under the imperial criminal code, children under twelve who commit crimes, and neglected children over twelve and under sixteen, are not subject to punishment.

The same chapter contains a complete translation of the results of an official examination by the German imperial chancellor, Prince von Hohenlohe, on Child Labor in Germany, *outside of factories*. The results of the inquiry are startling. Over half a million children of school age were found to be employed outside of factories, not including those employed in agricultural pursuits. The chancellor urges co-operation on the part of school teachers and inspectors in order to obtain the facts as to the age and physical condition of children. Injurious and unhealthful occupations are clearly defined, and some interesting statements made by teachers on the detrimental effects of child labor, based on their experience with children employed on half-time, who are still in school. Emphasis is laid on the injurious strain

of work done at unseasonable hours by boys in bowling alleys and newsboys. The chancellor has also summarized the child-labor regulations in other European countries.

Dr. Harris has added to the chancellor's report the translation of an exceedingly valuable article by Dr. Wiese which was printed in the *Berlin Tägliche Rundschau*, discussing the details of child labor frankly and openly. The article not only shows the effects of factory labor on children, but argues that it results in cheapening the labor of their parents. The writer enlarges on the failure of authorities to enforce the laws and the necessity of arousing public conscience to the evils of child labor. Under the head of Education in France is printed the translation of an extremely valuable article by M. Levasseur on Juvenile Crime.

An entire chapter is devoted to Educational Pathology or Self-Government in Schools, dealing with methods of training unfortunate, weak, neglected or depraved children, and summarizing the efforts which are being made to save these members of the social body for a life of usefulness by such organizations as the childrens' aid societies, juvenile courts and settlements organized on the model of the George Junior Republic. Dr. Harris considers that the healing and preventing of social diseases, rather than the punishment of those who cause the diseases or are subject to them, is analogous to the premises and methods of physical hygiene. Formerly the state rather stamped out disease with fire and sword than prevented the spread of disease and epidemics by quarantine and preventive agencies. It is suggested, however, that all of these attempts at reclaiming waifs, preventing crime and saving weaklings are in their infancy.<sup>4</sup>

**Abolishment of the Lock-Step in the New Jersey Prison.**—Warden Osborne, with the consent of the supervisors of the state prison, has abolished the lock-step. It means a saving in time of ten minutes in the morning, twenty minutes at the dinner hour and ten minutes at the close of the day's work, a saving each day of 450 hours for the 680 men employed in the shops. Warden Osborne has been desirous of its abolishment, and is pleased with the rapid way in which the prisoners are acquiring the military step. The prisoners have been made happy by the change.

**A Study of Wife Desertion** was begun last September by the Philadelphia Society for Organized Charity through a committee consisting of three members of the board of directors, the general secretary, Miss Richmond, and the writer of this note.

The facts that confronted us were: (1) Out of a total of 6,664 cases—families and individuals—dealt with by the society during the past year, in 211 families the distress was due either wholly or in part to the desertion of the wife by the husband, and (2) our Pennsylvania laws were inadequate, since they do not regard desertion and non-support as a crime, providing no penalty for the act and no redress for the wife except a court order on the husband for support, which is of no avail if the husband is out of the state.

Our study of the subject is really only beginning, but it seems worth while to sketch the lines along which we are working.

<sup>4</sup>Contributed by Hugh F. Fox, Bayonne, N. J.

I. We have studied the records of the 211 families, collecting statistics as to nationality, occupation, size of family, etc., determining, when possible, the causes of desertion; analyzing the methods used in dealing with the families, and naming and describing some types of deserters found among the 211 husbands.

II. We have investigated the present status of the matter in Pennsylvania by studying the Pennsylvania law and case reports, visiting the non-support court, and talking with lawyers, charity workers and journalists.

III. We have secured information as to the laws in other states, their practical working, and the best thought on the whole subject. In doing this, we wrote to all the secretaries of state and state boards of charities and correction, to representatives of many of the charity organization, legal aid and humane societies, and to various other individuals and organizations, and we consulted all the literature on the subject which we were able to find.

IV. We have framed a new law and are attempting to secure its passage at the present session of the Pennsylvania legislature. In this we have secured the active co-operation of several important Philadelphia charities and their legal representatives.

V. We hope as a result of this study to interest the people of Pennsylvania in the subject, not only with a view to securing the passage of this new law and ensuring its enforcement, but also for the sake of increasing the general recognition of the real seriousness of the problem involved.

To summarize the legal situation throughout the United States, the states and territories may be divided into four groups:

1. Those where there is no law on the subject, 2.
2. Those where the only remedy for the wife is an application for divorce, 16.
3. Those where there is a civil remedy, *i. e.*, where the court may make a support order against the man, 10.
4. Those where desertion and non-support constitute a crime—either a felony (2) or a misdemeanor (18).

As to two territories we have not yet secured information.

From our correspondence with charity workers all over the country we have discovered a very general feeling that the chief desideratum is to make desertion an extraditable offence, and that, to do this, it must be made a felony. For, although misdemeanors also come within the extradition law, governors are unwilling to act except in cases of felony. Accordingly in at least eight states efforts are soon to be made to secure the passage of acts making desertion and non-support a felony.

Among the other suggestions as to features desirable in a law are:

1. Some workhouse scheme by which a man could be imprisoned and a certain sum paid regularly to his family as the proceeds of his labor.
2. Probation.
3. Uniform legislation throughout the United States.

The law which we are now presenting to the Pennsylvania legislature has, of course, been framed with special reference to our local needs and limitations. It is an act making desertion and non-support of wife or children a

felony, punishable by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or fine not exceeding \$100, or both. It provides that after conviction the judge may suspend sentence as long as a man complies with the court's support order. Even if this law is passed, procedure in ordinary cases may still be under our present law, which would have the advantage of offering a more speedy remedy, since it does not involve a jury trial and under it a court order can be obtained in a few weeks. But the new law would add the possibility of bringing a deserter back from another state, and, in aggravated cases, of imprisoning him for a year as a criminal.<sup>5</sup>

**Legal Dispensaries** are still quite new in the United States. New York City has for a generation had its legal aid society, where the poorest client could secure adequate relief and justice. The State of New Jersey has a state legal aid society with headquarters at Newark, employing as does a recently formed society in Boston, a lawyer in regular practice to conduct legal aid cases. A society based upon the New York model has recently been formed in Philadelphia, and Pittsburg, Baltimore and Chicago have at least one legal dispensary each. Social settlements in England discovered the need for legal relief, and improved, somewhat, upon the New York and New Jersey methods by establishing in the neighborhoods inhabited by the poor, veritable dispensaries where for a nominal fee the "Poor Man's Lawyer" may be consulted. For the same reason that the poor will resort to a local medical dispensary when they fear to go to a drug emporium or hospital they will also consult a legal adviser at an unpretentious office in their own neighborhood. They will bear the ills they know, rather than endure the uncertainties of a visit to a lawyer's office in a pretentious office building. New York now has a central office and three branches. As a result cases have grown from three thousand to sixteen thousand. It is probable that an increase in the facilities for obtaining justice would result in a corresponding increase in the application for legal relief.

The number of cases of legal relief which might be expected, assuming that cities having a population of over one hundred thousand have the same relative need for legal relief as New York (and this assumption is undoubtedly safe, because as experience has shown that even the sixteen thousand cases in New York represent but a small proportion of the total number of cases that would resort to legal dispensaries were these near at hand), would be as follows:

New York, N. Y., 16,000; Chicago, Ill., 7,902; Philadelphia, Pa., 6,017; St. Louis, Mo., 2,676; Boston, Mass., 2,608; Baltimore, Md., 2,367; Cleveland, Ohio, 1,776; Buffalo, N. Y., 1,639; San Francisco, Cal., 1,594; Cincinnati, Ohio, 1,515; Pittsburg, Pa., 1,495; New Orleans, La., 1,335; Detroit, Mich., 1,329; Milwaukee, Wis., 1,327; Washington, D. C., 1,299; Newark, N. J., 1,145; Jersey City, N. J., 960; Louisville, Ky., 952; Minneapolis, Minn., 943; Providence, R. I., 817; Indianapolis, Ind., 787; Kansas City, Mo., 762; St. Paul, Minn., 758; Rochester, N. Y., 756; Denver, Col., 623; Toledo, Ohio, 613; Allegheny, Pa., 604; Columbus, Ohio, 584; Worcester, Mass., 551; Syracuse, N. Y., 504; New Haven, Conn., 502; Paterson, N. J., 489; Fall River, Mass.,

<sup>5</sup> Contributed by Helen Foss, Philadelphia.

488; St. Joseph, Mo., 479; Omaha, Neb., 477; Los Angeles, Cal.; 477; Memphis, Tenn., 476; Scranton, Pa., 475.

**The Report of the New York State Prison Commission.**—In this report the state prison commission asks again for the erection of a separate building for men condemned to death. The other important recommendations are:

An appropriation for completing the new Trades School building at the Elmira Reformatory. An amendment to the law relating to probation, which will give every court authorized to suspend sentences the power to appoint probation officers. An amendment which will allow the application of the indeterminate sentence and parole law to be applied to state prisons so as to bring within its provisions all persons sentenced to state prison for first offences except murder. The establishing of a state industrial school for male misdemeanants between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one years. The law governing the county jails to be amended so as to require the separation of prisoners with proper classification (this to be mandatory), and to provide for the procedure and enforcement of the law governing county jails.

Cornelius V. Collins, superintendent of the male prison commission, in his report has advanced some new ideas; one is to make the term of incorrigibles practically a life sentence, sentencing for life those who have spent three previous terms for felonies; giving the commissioners the power of parole. In this way sentences could be suspended during good behavior, with the return to confinement, without trial, upon any disposition to return to evil ways. A recommendation is also made that the salaries of prison guards shall be regulated by the length of service. The transfer of convicts suffering from tuberculosis in the earlier stages to the Clinton prison in the Adirondacks is also recommended. In five years there has been a decrease of 71 per cent in the number of deaths from this disease.

**Settlement Work Among Colored People** has been found both practicable and profitable by at least one organization of the settlement type in New Jersey. In a city of about 6,000 inhabitants, about 500 of whom are negroes, the Civic League conducts the following club work among colored children and their mothers: The colored women avail themselves most gladly of the privileges of the day nursery, where their babies may be left while they are out working, and enjoy thoroughly a mothers' meeting held once a week especially for them. Here they are taught to cut and make garments for themselves and their children, paying in part the price of the materials used. A cup of tea served them when work is over ends what is to the women a real social treat, for there is nothing colored people enjoy quite so much as meetings.

Some very good work is done by colored children in the sewing school and a very successful girls' club is carried on for them one evening a week. It has at present eighteen members, varying in age from fourteen to twenty. The girls are learning sewing, knitting and crocheting, in which they take a great deal of interest. The evening ends with games and music.

A colored boys' club, too, meets weekly, with the enthusiastic support of its twenty-one members. The boys elect their own officers and conduct their

own business meeting, which occupies the first half hour of each evening. After this some instructive occupation follows—last year it was basket weaving, this year chair caning—which appeals rather strongly to the boys, because it is something they can use later in the way of business. Three-quarters of an hour of games and music close the evening. The work done in all of these clubs and classes is quite up to the average done by white children and the change noticeable in manners and character of the members most gratifying.

Perhaps the one point most often urged to prove the hopelessness of any such work among colored people is that they are "so lazy and have no ambition." This is sometimes true—not always. But if it is true, if the colored boy does lack ambition, is it wholly his fault, and is it even surprising when we consider conditions? Is it not the thought of what they are going to be and do when men that inspires most boys? What position in the community may the colored boy aspire to hold? In what occupation may he hope to engage?

In this city he may drive a garbage wagon, coal cart, grocery wagon or hack or, if he is fortunate, get a place as private coachman. He may become a day laborer or do cleaning and whitewashing or be a house servant, but he may *not* enter a trade or compete in any skilled labor with the white man. So, though he has the ability to be a carpenter, plumber, painter or mechanic, he knows that his learning to use this ability is fruitless unless he is willing to go South again, where he may have a chance to turn his knowledge to practical account. The North gave him freedom, but means him to enjoy that freedom at the South.

On the whole, work among these people is most encouraging. They are easily influenced and responsive to any advice or suggestion given by the workers, whom they quickly trust and regard as friends, and this friendship once won lasts, with all its possible opportunity of helpfulness.\*

\*Contributed by Caroline B. Chapin, of the Civic League, Englewood, N. J.